

Is Galveston to become a guinea pig for the latest HUD public housing experiment?

“Mayor Jaworski stated that it was clear at HUD headquarters in Washington, D.C., that Mr. Krishnarao is a “rock star.” He stated that Mr. Krishnarao went out of his way to let people know that Galveston’s Mayor was in town and that everyone had taken time out of their schedule to come over and speak. It was very helpful as he could see the light in many of these public servants’ eyes.

They had a chance to meet Assistant Secretary Marquez and Secretary Donovan as well, which was exciting. Mayor Jaworski stated that he was able to tell him that Galveston is at the right time, and is the right size and that its heart is open right now to HUD’s progressive policies. It is not just building places where poverty is hidden, but instead it is a place that can actually restore people to the life that the promise of America can afford us all. He said he had wanted to express that Galveston could be the model community for the 21st century of HUD policies. He shared that they had a very down to earth conversation with Assistant Secretary Marquez, who will be visiting Galveston in August to offer technical assistance, which will save GHA a lot of money. Ms. Marquez is going to bring a matrix of benefits that GHA might be able to access. She looks at Galveston as her “little brother,” which is also reflected in the specific set aside for CDBG funding has for GHA of \$50 million and \$20 million for Section 8 rehabilitation. All in all, Galveston is on their map.”

[GHA Minutes from the July 13, 2010 Board Meeting page 7.](#)

So the question now becomes, who is running this City, the legally elected City Council Members or the Mayor’s appointed GHA Commissioners and HUD?

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